



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
VIRTUAL FELLOWS PROGRAM
PROJECT DESCRIPTION – EB/IFD/OMA**



This project seeks a Virtual Fellow to serve with the **Monetary Affairs, Office of International Finance and Development, Bureau of Economics and Business Affairs (EB/IFD/OMA)** as **Digital Currency Research Consultant**.

Fellow Location: The Fellow will serve virtually. Relocation is not required.

Project Name: Digital Currencies

Project Description: The State Department's Office of Monetary Affairs (OMA) is responsible for monitoring developments in global currencies, including digital currencies such as Bitcoin. OMA seeks a Virtual Fellow to track, analyze, and explain development in digital currencies. The Fellow will monitor and advise OMA on developments in digital currencies, giving notice of significant developments that may pose risks, disruptions, or opportunities for U.S. business or interests. The Fellow will educate OMA on developments through selected articles and/or briefings and advise on U.S. policy. The Fellow will be on call for occasional research requests.

Potential Fellow Taskings: Typical written products will include summaries of new developments, talking points for State Department leaders to raise with counterparts, and backgrounds on the significance of developments. These products will typically be very concise, i.e., one to two paragraphs. Questions the Fellow will address and monitor may include: Where is the market and technology going? Who are the major players, in particular internationally? What are the opportunities, disruptive potential, and risks? What regulation and regulatory structures might be needed or should be avoided, nationally and internationally?

Program Requirements: The precepts of the Virtual Fellows Program call for Fellows to have a high degree of administrative, professional, or technical knowledge/experience and a minimum of five years of professional experience that is directly applicable to the assigned task.

Project-specific Knowledge, Skills, or Abilities:

- Keen interest in and knowledge of digital currencies, and ideally international money transfers, payments, and banking;
- First-rate writing and editing abilities;
- Strong research background;
- Knowledge of international economics;
- Knowledge of technologies related to digital currencies;
- International experience.

Clearance: The Fellow must be a U.S. citizen and must receive a Public Trust determination prior to starting his/her service. The Virtual Fellows Program staff will work with the accepted candidate to obtain the Public Trust determination. (Note: A candidate is NOT required to have a Public Trust determination prior to applying for this project.)

Remuneration: The Virtual Fellow will be appointed to the federal civil service as an intermittent, unpaid consultant. The Department assumes no responsibility for providing any salary or benefits to the Fellow in connection with participation in the Program.